

Atty Docket No.: 209546-86427

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-19 (Canceled).

20. (New) A method for making an interior trim panel for a vehicle using a two-shot molding technique, said method comprising the steps of:

injecting a first material into a mold cavity that defines a first volume to form a first surface of the interior trim panel for the vehicle, said first surface having sidewalls that define an opening; and

injecting a second material into a mold cavity that defines a second volume and forming a second surface that is directly bonded to said first surface and closes out said opening of said first surface, said second material having at least one differing characteristic than said first material, wherein said first material and said second material define a functional relationship.

21. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 20, wherein said differing characteristic between said first material and said second material are that said first surface has a support characteristic and said second surface has a flexible characteristic such that said second surface is depressible.

22. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 21, wherein said step for injecting said second material forms said second material into one or more discrete switching elements such that said one or more discrete switch elements are independently depressible.

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23. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 22, further comprising the steps of:

providing a circuit assembly in selective electrical communication with said one or more discrete switch elements, wherein depression of said one or more discrete switch elements electrically actuates at least a portion said circuit assembly.

24. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 23, wherein said circuit assembly includes a plurality of contacts in electrical communication with a plurality of terminals.

25. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 20, wherein at least a portion of one or both of said first surface and said second surface define an exterior surface of said trim panel such that they are externally visible as installed within a vehicle.

26. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 20, wherein at least a portion of both said first surface and said second surface define an exterior surface of said trim panel such that they are externally visible as installed within a vehicle.

27. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 20, wherein said first mold cavity that defines the first volume and said second mold cavity that defines the second volume are the same mold cavity.

28. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 20, wherein said second surface is attached to said sidewalls of said first surface.

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29. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 20, wherein said first surface is mechanically interlocked to said second surface.

30. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 20, wherein said step of injection of said second material is subsequent to said step of injection of said first material.

31. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 20, wherein said second material is injected when said first material is sufficiently cured.

32. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 20, wherein said differing characteristic between said first material and said second material is that said first material is a rigid material that forms a plastic support material, and wherein said second material is a flexible material that forms a relatively soft-touch plastic material.

33. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to Claim 20, further comprising the step of:
applying a cover over at least a portion of the second surface.

34. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 33, wherein the manufacture of said cover is selected from the group consisting of a spray urethane and a rotocast.

35. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 33, wherein said cover includes identifying markings.

36. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 33, further comprising the step of:
applying the cover over at least a portion of the first surface.

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37. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 36, further comprising the step of:

dispensing a foam layer between said cover and said first surface.

38. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 20, wherein said first and second surfaces define at least a portion of a vehicular bezel and switch component.

39. (New) The method for making an interior trim panel according to claim 20, further comprising the step of:

integrating said interior trim panel into an armrest of a vehicle.